

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LAHONTAN REGION

BOARD ORDER NO. 6-95-33A1
WDID NO. 6B150303022

AMENDED WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR

RIDGECREST/INYOKERN CLASS III LANDFILL

Kern County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (Regional Board) finds:

1. Dischargers

On October 13, 1995 the County of Kern submitted information that constitutes a complete amended Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) for the active Ridgecrest/Inyokern Class III Landfill. The RWD includes a time schedule for compliance with State and Federal regulations. The County of Kern is referred to as the "Discharger."

2. Facility

For the purposes of this Order, the Ridgecrest Class III Landfill is referred to as the "Landfill." The Landfill is an active waste management unit which is located approximately 5 miles southwest of the City of Ridgecrest, Kern County, within the NW/4 of Section 12, T27S, R39E, MDB&M. The Landfill receives inert and non-hazardous solid waste from the Cities of Ridgecrest and Inyokern.

3. Regional Board Order

The Regional Board previously adopted Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for the Landfill in Board Order No. 6-95-33, which was adopted on March 9, 1995. The Findings, Discharge Specifications, and Provisions of Board Order No. 6-95-33 not amended by this Order remain in effect.

4. Reason For Action

Board Order 6-95-33 contains a time schedule for the submittal of several technical documents required by Parts 257 and 258, Subtitle D, Code of Federal Regulations (Subtitle D) and Chapter 15, Title 23, California Code of Regulations (Chapter 15). This first alternative time schedule was proposed by the Discharger to address items contained in a previously amended Board Order. This first alternative time schedule includes requirements for the Discharger to submit a revised Preliminary Closure and Post-Closure Maintenance Plan (CPCMP), financial assurance for closure and a reasonably foreseeable release, a revised Detection Monitoring Program, and a revised Water Quality Protection Standard (WQPS).

The first alternative time schedule was developed because the time schedule contained in the previously amended Order, which was dictated by the State Water Resources Control Board in accordance with Subtitle D, was unreasonable based on the financial, administrative, and physical constraints of the Discharger. However, in developing the first alternative time schedule the Discharger failed to consider the time necessary to complete all of the elements of each task, and the Discharger could not attain compliance with the time schedule contained in Board Order No. 6-95-33.

The Discharger has developed a second alternative time schedule to complete the tasks included in Board Order No. 6-95-33. The Discharger has detailed each element of each task, and appears to have allotted a reasonable amount of time to complete these tasks. This amendment to Board Order No. 6-95-33 incorporates the second alternative time schedule proposed by the Discharger.

5. Consideration of Enforcement

The Discharger could not attain compliance with the time schedule contained in Board Order No. 6-95-33. The Findings of Board Order No. 6-95-33 indicate that enforcement action would be considered in the case of non-compliance with the Order. Although the schedule was not complied with, the Discharger has been responsive and has taken actions which demonstrate an active and aggressive attempt to comply with State and Federal regulations. These actions included developing blanket contracts with consultants to expedite site activities and the submittal of technical reports. In consideration of the responsive nature of the Discharger and the aggressive efforts to attain compliance, enforcement action is not warranted at this time and it is appropriate to amend the Order to incorporate a revised time schedule. The Regional Board may again consider enforcement action in the case of non-compliance with this amended Order.

6. California Environmental Quality Act Compliance

This amendment to Board Order No. 6-95-33 governs an existing facility which is currently operating and is therefore exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act Compliance (Public Resources Code, Section 2100 et seq.) in accordance with Section 15301, Chapter 3, Title 14, California Code of Regulations.

7. Public Notification

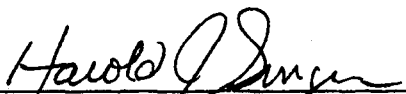
The Regional Board has notified the Dischargers and interested agencies and persons of its intent to amend WDRs for the Landfill. The Regional Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the following time schedules replace the time schedules previously included in Board Order No. 6-95-33:

TIME SCHEDULES

1. By October 2, 1996 the Discharger shall submit financial assurance documentation for the reasonably foreseeable release from the Landfill.
2. By December 30, 1996 the Discharger shall submit a complete WQPS to the Regional Board which complies with Article 5 of Chapter 15 and Subtitle D.
3. By December 30, 1996 the Discharger shall submit site-specific statistical methods to be used for analysis of monitoring data.
4. The Discharger must attain access to property which is owned by another party in order to drill new monitoring points. By August 15, 1997 OR within 1 year of receiving site access for drilling of all monitoring points, the Discharger shall submit a technical report which documents the installation of proposed additional monitoring points for the Detection Monitoring Program.

I, Harold J. Singer, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region, on November 9, 1995.



HAROLD J. SINGER
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LAHONTAN REGION

BOARD ORDER NO. 6-95-33
WDID NO. 6B150303022

REVISED WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR

COUNTY OF KERN
RIDGECREST/INYOKERN CLASS III LANDFILL

Kern County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (Regional Board) finds:

1. Discharger

On January 30, 1995 the County of Kern submitted a complete revised Report of Waste Discharge for the Ridgecrest/Inyokern Class III Landfill. For the purpose of this Regional Board Order (Order), the County of Kern is referred to as the "Discharger."

2. Facility

The Ridgecrest/Inyokern Class III Landfill is the facility that receives and stores waste. For the purposes of this Order, the Ridgecrest/Inyokern Class III Landfill is referred to as the "Landfill."

3. Order History

The Regional Board previously adopted Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for the Landfill under Board Order No. 6-80-81, which was adopted on October 9, 1980. The Regional Board adopted Board Order No. 6-85-58 on June 13, 1985, which revised the WDRs. Board Order No. 6-93-10026 was adopted on September 9, 1993, and amended the WDRs to incorporate the requirements of Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 257 and 258 (Subtitle D) as implemented in the State of California under State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Resolution No. 93-62.

4. Reason for Action

The Regional Board is revising these WDRs to require the Discharger to achieve compliance with the revised requirements of Article 5, Chapter 15, Title 23, California Code of Regulations (Chapter 15) and to incorporate the remaining requirements of Board Order amendment No. 6-93-10026. The Order amendment was adopted to implement Subtitle D regulations in accordance with SWRCB Resolution No. 93-62. The State regulations have been revised since the Regional Board last revised these WDRs in 1985.

5. Landfill Location

The Landfill is located approximately five miles southwest of the City of Ridgecrest, Kern County, within the NW/4 of Section 12, T27S, R39E, MDB&M, as shown on Attachment "A," which is made part of this Order.

6. Description of Landfill

The Landfill is an unlined landfill which receives approximately 200 tons of waste per day. Based on the quantity of waste received per day, the Landfill is a Large landfill as defined in Subtitle D. As such, Subtitle D requirements became effective for this Landfill on October 9, 1993. Regional Board staff have reviewed information submitted by the Discharger which illustrates the footprint of waste discharged as of October 9, 1993. The footprint documents the limits of waste which are exempt from Subtitle D requirements for composite liners, and is shown as Attachment "B", which is made a part of this Order.

7. Authorized Disposal Sites

The footprint of waste shown in Attachment "B" is the only authorized disposal site. A revised Report of Waste Discharge will be required if the Discharger proposes to discharge waste outside the footprint area.

8. Waste Classification

The Landfill receives waste derived from the City of Ridgecrest and the surrounding desert communities. The waste is defined in Sections 2523 and 2524 of Chapter 15, Title 23, California Code of Regulations, as inert and non-hazardous solid waste, respectively. The waste is defined as municipal solid waste in Subtitle D.

9. Waste Management Unit Classification

Pursuant to Section 2533, Chapter 15, Title 23, California Code of Regulations, the Landfill is classified as a Class III waste management unit.

10. Subtitle D Compliance Status

Board Order amendment No. 6-93-10026 required the submittal of several items in order to comply with Subtitle D. The Discharger has submitted complete information regarding the acceptance of liquids, the existing waste footprint, the distance from the Landfill to the nearest drinking water source, and whether the Landfill is located in a 100 year floodplain or a wetlands. This Order includes a time schedule to submit a revised Water Quality

Protection Standard (WQPS) which meets the requirements of Subtitle D and Chapter 15. The above-referenced items already submitted in conjunction with the items required by this Order fulfill the submittal requirements of Subtitle D as implemented by SWRCB Resolution No. 93-62.

11. Water Quality Protection Standard

The WQPS consists of constituents of concern (including monitoring parameters), concentration limits, monitoring points, and the point of compliance. The standard applies over the active life of the Landfill, closure and post-closure maintenance period, and the compliance period. The constituents of concern, monitoring points, and the point of compliance are described in Monitoring and Reporting Program 95-33, which is attached to and made a part of this Order. This Order includes a time schedule for the Discharger to propose concentration limits for all constituents of concern.

12. Statistical Methods

Statistical analysis of monitoring data is necessary for the earliest possible detection of a statistically significant release of waste from the Landfill. Chapter 15 and Subtitle D regulations require statistical data analysis. Monitoring and Reporting Program 95-33 includes general methods for statistical data analysis. This Order includes a time schedule for the Discharger to submit site-specific statistical methods to be used for monitoring data analysis.

13. Detection Monitoring

Pursuant to Section 2550.8 of Chapter 15, Title 23, California Code of Regulations, the Discharger has proposed a detection monitoring program. The current detection monitoring program has been designed to monitor the ground water and unsaturated zone for evidence of a release. No release has been detected to date. This Order includes a time schedule for the submittal of a revised detection monitoring program for the ground water and unsaturated zone. The revised plans are necessary to upgrade the monitoring system to achieve compliance with Chapter 15 and Subtitle D. The existing detection monitoring system is described in Monitoring and Reporting Program 95-33.

14. Evaluation Monitoring

An evaluation monitoring program may be required, pursuant to Section 2550.9 of Chapter 15, Title 23, California Code of Regulations, to evaluate evidence of a release if detection monitoring and/or verification procedures indicate evidence of a release.

15. Corrective Action

A corrective action program (CAP) to remediate released wastes from the Landfill may be required pursuant to Section 2550.10 should results of an evaluation monitoring program warrant a CAP.

16. Site Geology

The site is underlain by thick floodplain deposits of sand and gravel with interbeds of silt and clay. Depth to bedrock is estimated at greater than 1000 feet below the site. No evidence of Holocene faulting has been noted in the geologic materials beneath the site.

17. Site Hydrogeology

Depth to ground water varies across the site from approximately 330 to 357 feet below ground surface. The slope of the ground water table beneath the site is relatively flat 0.09 ft per mile. The direction of ground water flow has been measured as being to the north, northwest, and west. Ground water extraction wells operated by the Indian Wells Valley Water District are located within four miles of the Landfill. This Order includes a time schedule for the Discharger to install additional ground water monitoring wells for the purposes of better defining the site hydrogeology.

18. Site Surface Hydrology and Storm Water Runoff

There is no surface water flow at the site. All storm water run-off from the Landfill is regulated under the statewide Amended General Industrial Activities Storm Water Permit.

19. Site Topography

Site topography is shown on Attachment "A", which is made a part of this Order.

20. Climatology

The precipitation in the area of the Landfill is approximately five inches annually. The evaporation rate is approximately 120 inches annually.

21. Land Uses

The land uses at and surrounding the Landfill consists of the following:

- a. various maintained residences and commercial buildings in the City of Ridgecrest; and
- b. open desert land.

22. Closure and Post-Closure Maintenance

The Discharger has not submitted a complete and technically adequate Preliminary Closure and Post-Closure Monitoring Plan (CPCMP). This Order includes a time schedule which requires that the Discharger submit a CPCMP. This Order also requires that the Discharger review the plan annually to determine if significant changes in the operation of the Landfill warrant an update of the plan.

23. Financial Assurances

The Discharger has not provided copies of financial assurance for site closure or potential future corrective action at the Landfill as required by Chapter 15. This Order includes a time schedule for the Discharger to provide financial assurance to the Integrated Waste Management Board (IWMB) for closure and the Regional Board for potential corrective action requirements. The Regional Board can access the closure financial assurance provided to the IWMB. The IWMB does not require financial assurance for potential releases.

24. Receiving Waters

The receiving waters are the ground waters of the Indian Wells Hydrologic Area of the Indian Wells Hydrologic Unit (Department of Water Resources Hydrologic Unit No. 624.20).

25. South Lahontan Basin Plan

The Regional Board adopted a Water Quality Control Plan for the South Lahontan Basin (Basin Plan) on May 8, 1975. This Order implements the Basin Plan, as amended.

26. Beneficial Ground Water Uses

The present and probable beneficial uses of the ground waters of the Indian Wells Hydrologic Area of the Indian Wells Hydrologic Unit as set forth and defined in the Basin Plan are:

- a. municipal and domestic supply;
- b. agricultural supply;
- c. industrial service supply; and
- d. freshwater replenishment.

27. California Environmental Quality Act

These WDRs govern an existing facility that the Discharger is currently operating. The project consists only of the continued operation of the Landfill and is therefore exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.) in accordance with Section 15301 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines.

28. Notification of Interested Parties

The Regional Board has notified the Discharger and all known interested agencies and persons of its intent to adopt revised WDRs for the project.

29. Consideration of Public Comments

The Regional Board in a public meeting heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Discharger shall comply with the following:

I. DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS

A. Receiving Water Limitations

The discharge of waste shall not cause the presence of the following substances or conditions in ground waters of the Indian Wells Hydrologic Unit:

1. any perceptible color, odor, taste, or foaming;
2. any presence of toxic substances in concentrations that individually, collectively, or cumulatively cause detrimental physiological response in humans, plants, animals, or aquatic life; and
3. the presence of constituents of concern in concentrations that exceed background levels.

II. REQUIREMENTS AND PROHIBITIONS

A. General

1. The discharge shall not cause a pollution as defined in Section 13050 of the California Water Code, or a threatened pollution.
2. The discharge shall not cause a nuisance as defined in Section 13050 of the California Water Code.
3. The discharge of solid wastes, leachate, or any other deleterious material to the ground waters of the Indian Wells Hydrologic Unit is prohibited.
4. The discharge of waste except to the authorized disposal site is prohibited.
5. The disposal sites shall be protected from inundation, washout, or erosion of wastes and erosion of covering materials resulting from a 100 year 24 hour storm or a flood event.
6. Surface drainage from tributary areas, and internal site drainage from surface or subsurface sources shall not contact or percolate through solid wastes discharged at the site.
7. The exterior surfaces of the disposal sites shall be graded to promote lateral runoff of precipitation and to prevent ponding.
8. Water used for dust control during disposal site operations shall be limited to a minimal amount. A "minimal amount" is defined as that amount which will not result in runoff.
9. Wastes other than inert wastes shall not be placed in ponded water from any source whatsoever.
10. No hazardous or designated wastes shall be discharged at the disposal sites.
11. The discharge of wastes in a manner that does not maintain a five foot soil separation between the wastes and the seasonal high ground water elevation is prohibited.
12. Waste discharged to the Landfill shall have a solids content of 50 percent or greater.

13. The Discharger shall remove and relocate any waste which is or has been discharged at the disposal sites in violation of these requirements.
14. During precipitation events, the disposal activity shall be confined to the smallest area possible based on the anticipated quantity of wastes and operation procedures.
15. At closure, all facilities must be closed in accordance with a final CPCMP approved by the Regional Board.
16. At any given time, the concentration limit for each constituent of concern shall be equal to the background value of that constituent.
17. The concentration limits for each constituent of concern shall not be exceeded.

B. Detection Monitoring Program

The Discharger shall maintain a detection monitoring program as required in Section 2550.1(a)(1) of Chapter 15.

C. Evaluation Monitoring Program

The Discharger shall establish an evaluation monitoring program whenever there is statistically significant evidence of a release from the Landfill as required in Section 2550.1(a)(2) or (3) of Chapter 15.

D. Corrective Action Program

The Discharger shall institute a CAP when required pursuant to Section 2550.1(a)(4) of Chapter 15.

III. DATA ANALYSIS

A. Statistical Analysis

Statistical analysis of ground water and unsaturated zone detection monitoring program data shall be conducted. Analysis shall be conducted in accordance with statistical methods detailed in Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 95-33.

B. Nonstatistical Analysis

The Discharger shall determine whether there is significant physical evidence of a release from the Landfill. Significant physical evidence may include unexplained volumetric changes in the Landfill, unexplained stress in biological communities, unexplained changes in soil characteristics, visible signs of leachate migration, and unexplained water table mounding beneath or adjacent to the Landfill, or any other change in the environment that could be reasonably be expected to be the result of a release from the Landfill.

C. Verification Procedures

1. The Discharger shall immediately initiate verification procedures whenever there is a determination by the Discharger or Executive Officer that there is statistical or non-statistical evidence of a release. If the Discharger declines the opportunity to conduct verification procedures, the Discharger shall submit a technical report as described below under the heading Technical Report Without Verification Procedures.
2. The verification procedure shall only be performed for the constituent(s) that has shown evidence of a release, and shall be performed for those monitoring points at which a release is indicated.
3. The Discharger shall either conduct a composite retest using data from the initial sampling event with all data obtained from the resampling event or shall conduct a discrete retest in which only data obtained from the resampling event shall be analyzed in order to verify evidence of a release.
4. The Discharger shall report to the Regional Board by certified mail the results of the verification procedure, as well as all concentration data collected for use in the retest within seven days of the last laboratory analysis.
5. The Discharger shall determine, within 45 days after completion of sampling, whether there is statistically significant evidence of a release from the Landfill at each monitoring point. If there is statistically significant evidence of a release, the Discharger shall immediately notify the Regional Board by certified mail. The Executive Officer may make an independent finding that there is statistical evidence of a release.

6. If the Discharger or Executive Officer verifies evidence of a release, the Discharger is required to submit, within 90 days of a determination that there is or was a release, a technical report pursuant to Section 13267(b) of the California Water Code. The report shall propose an evaluation monitoring program **OR** make a demonstration to the Regional Board that there is a source other than the Landfill that caused evidence of a release.

D. Technical Report Without Verification Procedures

If the Discharger chooses not to initiate verification procedures, a technical report shall be submitted pursuant to Section 13267(b) of the California Water Code within 90 days. The report shall propose an evaluation monitoring program, **OR**, attempt to demonstrate that the release did not originate from the Landfill.

IV. PROVISIONS

A. Rescission of WDRs

Board Order No. 6-85-58 and Board Order No. 6-93-10026 are hereby rescinded.

B. Standard Provisions

The Discharger shall comply with the "Standard Provisions for Waste Discharge Requirements," dated September 1, 1994, in Attachment "C", which is made part of this Order.

C. Monitoring and Reporting

1. Pursuant to the California Water Code Section 13267(b), the Discharger shall comply with the Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 95-33 as specified by the Executive Officer.
2. The Discharger shall comply with the "General Provisions for Monitoring and Reporting," dated September 1, 1994, which is attached to and made part of the Monitoring and Reporting Program.

D. Closure and Post-Closure Monitoring

The preliminary CPCMP, which is required to be submitted by this Order, shall be updated if there is a substantial change in operations. A report shall be submitted annually by April 30 indicating any changes in landfill operations which may warrant an update of the CPCMP. A final CPCMP shall be submitted at least 180 days prior

to beginning any partial or final closure activities or at least 120 days prior to discontinuing the use of the site for waste treatment, storage, or disposal, whichever is greater.

E. Financial Assurance

The Discharger shall submit a report annually by April 30 providing evidence that adequate financial assurance pursuant to the requirements of the WDRs has been provided to the IWMB for closure and to the Regional Board for potential releases. Evidence may include a copy of the renewed financial instrument or a copy of the receipt for payment of the financial instrument. The Discharger shall either provide evidence that the amount of financial assurance is still adequate or increase the amount of financial assurance by the appropriate amount. An increase may be necessary due to inflation, a change in regulatory requirements, a change in the approved closure plan, or other unforeseen events.

F. Modifications to the Landfill

If the Discharger intends to expand the capacity of the Landfill, a report shall be filed no later than 90 days after the total quantity of waste discharged at this site equals 75 percent of the reported capacity of the site. The report shall contain a detailed plan for site expansion. This plan shall include, but is not limited to a time schedule for studies design, and other steps needed to provide additional capacity. If site expansion is not undertaken prior to the site reaching the reported capacity, the total quantity discharged shall be limited to the reported capacity.

V. TIME SCHEDULE

A. Water Quality Protection Standard

1. By June 15, 1995 the Discharger shall submit a technical report which proposes a revised monitoring system for the unsaturated zone at the Landfill.
2. By June 15, 1995 the Discharger shall submit a technical report which proposes additional monitoring points for the ground water at the Landfill.
3. By October 15, 1995 the Discharger shall submit a technical report which documents the results of ground water monitoring well installation, and the installation and sampling of the revised unsaturated zone monitoring system.

RIDGECREST/INYOKERN
CLASS III LANDFILL
Kern County

-12- BOARD ORDER NO. 6-95-33
WDID NO. 6B150303022

4. By December 31, 1995 the Discharger shall submit a technical report which proposes concentration limits for liquids for all monitoring parameters listed in this Order.
5. By December 31, 1995 the Discharger shall submit a technical report which proposes concentration limits for liquids for all constituents of concern listed in this Order.

B. Statistical Methods

By December 31, 1995 the Discharger shall submit a technical report which proposes site-specific statistical methods to be used for monitoring data analysis.

C. Preliminary Closure and Post-Closure Monitoring Plan

By August 15, 1995 the Discharger shall submit a CPCMP in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 15, Subtitle D, and Title 14.

D. Financial Assurance

By August 15, 1995 the Discharger shall submit financial assurance for closure and potential corrective action at the site.

I, Harold J. Singer, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region, on March 9, 1995.



HAROLD J. SINGER
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

- Attachments:
- A. Location Map
 - B. Landfill Footprint of Waste (aerial and topographic)
 - C. Standard Provisions for Waste Discharge Requirements